

Message Text

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TAGS: PARM, NATO, MBFR

SUBJECT: MBFR: UK CHANGES TO DRAFT GUIDANCE AND SUPPLEMENT
TEXTS

REF: NATO 3979

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1. WE HAVE THE FOLLOWING COMMENTS REGARDING UK CHANGES TO SUPPLEMENTARY TEXT (AS REPORTED PARAS 2, 6, AND 7 REFTEL).

A. WE CANNOT ACCEPT PROPOSED INSERT PRIOR TO PARA 9 (8 BIS) OF SUPPLEMENT TEXT. THE REQUIREMENT THAT ALLIED NEGOTIATORS MAINTAIN A DISTINCTION BETWEEN, FOR EXAMPLE, LIMITS ON SOVIET TANKS AND LIMITS ON US NUCLEAR ELEMENTS APPEARS IMPRACTICAL TO IMPLEMENT IN NEGOTIATING TERMS. A PRIMARY NEGOTIATING OBJECTIVE WILL BE TO BUILD A BARRIER AGAINST THE EXTENSION OF LIMITATIONS ON US AND SOVIET ARMAMENTS TO NON-US ALLIED ARMAMENTS. THAT OBJECTIVE WILL BE UNDERCUT IF WE CANNOT PROVIDE SOME RATIONALE FOR MAINTAINING THE US-SOVIET FOCUS OF PHASE I, AND FOR DISTINGUISHING BETWEEN US AND NON-US ALLIED ARMAMENTS.

B. WE WOULD PREFER NOT TO ACCEPT UK REVISION OF PARA 6 OF DRAFT GUIDANCE (NOW PARA 7, NATO 3985), SINCE THIS UK CHANGE SUPPORTS THRUST OF UK CHANGE TO PARA 9 OF SUPPLEMENT

DISCUSSED ABOVE. HOWEVER, IF IT PROVES NECESSARY IN ORDER TO SECURE UK AGREEMENT TO DROP ITS PROPOSED INSERT IN THE SUPPLEMENT, WE COULD ACCEPT THIS REVISION TO THE GUIDANCE. IF UK DOES NOT AGREE TO DROP ITS INSERT IN THE SUPPLEMENT, WE CANNOT ACCEPT EITHER UK CHANGE.

C. REGARDING PROPOSED UK ADD-ON TO PARA 7 OF DRAFT GUIDANCE (PARA 8 IN NATO 3985), MISSION SHOULD SEEK CLARIFICATION FROM UK ABOUT MEANING OF WORDS "EXPLICIT LIMITATIONS." DOES THIS MEAN, FOR EXAMPLE, THAT UK WOULD ACCEPT IMPLICIT LIMITATIONS? WE WOULD LIKE TO SEE REPORT OF UK CLARIFICATION AND ALLIED VIEWS OF UK CHANGE BEFORE ACCEPTING UK SENTENCE. INGERSOLL

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